

MAKES A FIRM STAND.

Governor Leedy Does What No Other Governor Has Dared Bring About.

Some time ago State Auditor Morris took the position that the State Coal Oil Inspector should make monthly reports to his office. The Oil Inspector recently wrote the Auditor that he would be governed by the Attorney General's opinion of the law. The Governor became interested and determined to go to the bottom of things.

As a means of settling the matter Governor Leedy sent the following letter to Attorney General Boyle:

A law passed in 1877 says that certain officers therein named and all others who receive and disburse money for the State are to make monthly reports to the State Auditor. Since that time laws have been made creating new offices, such as Oil Inspector, Insurance Commissioner, Bank Commissioner and Grain Inspector, each appearing to have an enactment of its own with regard to the method in which the respective offices so created shall report. I would be glad if you would let me know to what officials, in your judgment, the law originally made refers, and which of them are governed by statutes since created with special reference to the given officers.

Mr. Boyle transmitted a lengthy reply, in which he said:

In reply thereto I will say that the section you have reference to, I presume, is No. 6683 of the compiled laws of 1889, which section reads as follows, to-wit:

"All public moneys received from any source except from State Treasurer, on appropriation made by the Legislature, by the warden of the State penitentiary, regents of State University, Agricultural college directors, Normal school trustees, or other officers of any State institution or department authorized by law to receive and disburse moneys on account of the State, shall be turned over to the State Treasurer on or before the fifteenth day of each month succeeding the one in which said moneys were received, except at the close of the fiscal year, at which time such returns shall be made on or before the close of the fiscal year, taking duplicate receipts of the State Treasurer for the same, one of which shall be delivered to the Auditor of State, together with the sworn statement of the officer so depositing, setting forth the source from which such moneys were received, and that no other than the moneys so deposited with the Treasurer have been received by him during the period covered by said statement, and the other filed in the office of the institution or department."

I think it is but a safe and reasonable contention to say that the above section had reference to all State officers who received and disbursed public moneys at the time of its passage. As you will observe by reading the same, after naming certain parties it goes on and says, "or other officers of any State institution or department." Consequently it makes no exception, and, in my judgment, it now is applicable to all State officers unless there has been some subsequent statute in reference to certain particular State officers which is in conflict with this statute or which repeals the same.

I find no statute passed since 1877 that is in conflict with section 6683 except those that I have already called your attention to. Therefore I would say that said section is fairly applicable to all other State officers without any qualifications than those above named, who receive and disburse public money.

This means that all State officers who handle public moneys must report monthly on the same, with the exception of the Bank Commissioner, who makes quarterly reports under the new banking law.

The Governor wrote the Auditor, asking what officers complied with the law during this and preceding administrations. Auditor Morris was out of the city, but the records indicate that under the Leedy administration the warden of the penitentiary, the grain inspectors, the Secretary of State, and probably the Auditor himself, were the only ones complying.

Under Governor Morrill only the Secretary, Auditor, warden, and part of the time only, the Oil Inspector made proper reports. The fact is, the law has been a dead letter in most cases. The Oil Inspector, Superintendent of Insurance, Bank Commissioner and some others ap-

pear to be delinquent. Under Republican administrations there was no effort to enforce it. Governor Leedy has determined to uphold the Auditor and will to-day write every one of his appointees who "receives and disburses money" except, of course, the warden and grain inspector, inclosing the Attorney General's opinion of the law and request compliance with its provisions. If no other reform is adopted by this administration it will deserve the thanks of the people for putting into force a law which their predecessors seem to have entirely overlooked.

It appears that after all the Republican Oil Inspectors never did make proper and full reports and absolutely quit making any and held on till April 6, 1897, without making any reports at all.

Oil Inspector Wharton came to Topeka Monday evening. To an Advocate and News representative he said: "I stated in my last letter to Auditor Morris that I would be willing to act in accordance with the Attorney General's view of the law, and while I have not yet read his opinion, I am reliably informed that it is held that my department should make monthly reports and I shall certainly do so. I believed that my view of the law was the right one, but I will comply with the law as Mr. Boyle construes it."

Manhattan's New Dairy School.

The Agricultural College will begin instruction in its new dairy course during the winter term beginning January 4 and ending March 26. The Industrialist, in speaking of the matter, says:

"Farmers and farmers' sons who are interested in creameries or who sell milk to creameries, as well as those who make their own butter, should consider the advisability of attending our dairy school this winter. All know that butter of the best quality cannot be made in the home dairy unless the milk is also of the same quality; but many do not know or else forget that the same fact is true in regard to creameries—the better the quality of the milk the higher the grade of butter that can be produced from it. The higher the grade of butter the creamery produces the greater is the price received for it, and consequently the higher are the returns which the creamery can make to the farmer. The question of economical feeding of dairy cattle is also the same for the private dairyman and for the one who sells his milk."

The tuition is free and expenses can be made to be very light. The work of instruction will be carefully and systematically handled and good results will accrue from this instruction.

How Leland Pays Taxes.

There is probably not a man in the county of Doniphan who has not read in the Chief, or heard publicly talked, the fact (alleged) that Cy Leland is the largest tax-payer in the county.

Everybody knows that Mr. Leland owns quite a snug portion of farming land, as well as a whole lot of other real estate, including numerous corner lots in Troy.

Everybody knows that Mr. Leland owns a big store in Troy, and when you strike Harry Root he will tell you with emphatic language and graceful gesture, that there is not such a stock carried in ordinary Kansas towns of from 3,000 to 5,000 population, and the Times is willing to admit that Harry is about right.

When the assessor strikes Cy for a list of personal property is shrinks as suddenly as does Pullman stock in the presence of the Chicago assessor. Last spring Trustee Briggs only found \$2,500 worth of goods in the big Leland store; he also found 111 horses which he assessed at \$2,740, forty-eight cattle at \$395, and other personal property which he marked as worth \$1,700. This in Center township. Just where the lumber yard, meat market and other personal property comes in, we cannot say at present, but when the board of equalization met, Mr. Leland, or somebody, ran a pencil through most of the items, and reduced them as follows: Horses to \$1,790, merchandise left standing, cattle to \$320, and "all other" to \$1,550. In other words, he reduced his own assessment from \$7,590 to \$6,415 on personal property in this township.—Troy Times.

Wellington Voice: To be cured of the Klondike fever, go into a plowed field some cold morning before breakfast in winter, and with a grub-hoe dig a hole sixteen feet deep, come back to the house in the evening about dark and eat a small piece of stewed buffalo robe and sleep in the woodshed. Repeat the dose if necessary.

PLANS OF CONGRESSMEN.

Kansas Delegation at Washington Tell What They Intend to Accomplish at This Session.

In order to give its readers some idea of what the Kansas Senators and Congressmen intend to do at the present session of Congress the Advocate and News wired each member of the Washington delegation, asking an outline of his plans.

At the time of going to press Senator Harris and Congressmen Botkin, Broderick, Peters, Ridgely, Curtis, Vincent and McCormick had answered. Their replies are given, as follows:

Senator Harris.

My plans for the session are, in brief, as follows: I shall use every effort to obtain full payment from the Kansas Pacific and Central Pacific railroads or else to secure the purchase of the roads by the government; I shall oppose all currency legislation seeking to retire the greenbacks, to enlarge bank power or to strengthen the gold standard; I shall oppose the proposed annexation of Hawaii and the pooling and anti-trust brokerage bills. I am in favor of belligerent rights for Cuba, the postal savings bank bill, the Lodge immigration bill and the Nelson bankruptcy bill, and I shall work to obtain the Fort Hays reservation for the State; for the State University's claim for the burning of the Free State hotel, and to secure the passage of a number of private bills.

W. A. HARRIS.

Congressman-at-Large Botkin.

I shall oppose all efforts to contract the currency by the retirement of the greenbacks or by their conversion into gold certificates, as well as the efforts of banks to secure the entire control of our monetary system and all other gold standard schemes. I shall contend for bimetallism, for a postal savings bank system, for just pension legislation, for Cuban independence, for the overthrow of trusts and combines to the end that American producers and laborers may be independent, and for the restoration of this government to the people. I shall affiliate with all like-minded men and fight only the common enemy.

J. D. BOTKIN.

Congressman Broderick.

In reply to message will say that I hope to help in formulating and passing, during this session of Congress, a good bankruptcy law, fair to all sections of the country. I also wish to assist in devising and putting in operation a postal savings bank system. I shall endeavor to have Kansas divided into two Federal court districts, shall urge that provision be made for the sale of the surplus lands belonging to Pottawatomie and Kickapoo Indian reservation in Kansas. I will aid in securing appropriations for public buildings and for other legitimate purposes in our State.

CASE BRODERICK.

Congressman Peters.

My individual plans, in part, are: To reduce postage one-half on point-print letters written by the blind; to secure a building for Kansas City, Kas., by appropriation or donation of the old government building in Kansas City, Mo., to obtain for the State University a claim of \$20,000 and to give special attention to the claims of individuals in my district. In a general way, I shall oppose the annexation of Hawaii, the contraction of the currency, civil service as administered, and I shall work for postal savings banks, restriction of immigration, and Cuban belligerency.

MASON R. PETERS.

Congressman Ridgely.

I shall oppose the bankers' scheme as recommended by President McKinley to retire the greenbacks. I will work for bimetallism and the expansion of government legal tender, paper money with which to retire all bonds and bank money forever, for public ownership and control of the means of production and distribution so that every industrious citizen can get ready employment, own and enjoy a free home with plenty. I shall support the initiative and referendum, the establishment of a postal savings bank system without interest, a service pension law, and will work with my best endeavors for the union of the people to vote this government out of the control of the trusts and monopolies.

E. R. RIDGELY.

Congressman Curtis.

Answering your message, I hope, during this session, to secure \$100,000 to enlarge the government building at Topeka, \$10,000 for the erection of a new Indian school building in Brown

county, and the passage of some meritorious private pension bills. I shall assist in securing the passage of a bankruptcy bill, some general pension legislation, a bill for the relief of State military and a bill to settle the Indian Territory questions. I think Congress should adjourn as soon as possible after the passage of the appropriation bill.

CHARLES CURTIS.

Congressman Vincent.

With such a Republican majority in the house Populists can hope to accomplish but little. We will try to prevent the opposition from doing harm. I will help every good measure regardless of its introducer, and oppose all that is bad. I shall do all in my power against retiring the greenbacks and the issuing of more bond and bank notes. I am in favor of a bankruptcy bill and the recognition of Cuba. I intend to introduce a bill to relieve pension applicants from the necessity of proving that they were able-bodied men when they entered the service and from the necessity of proving the condition of their health ever since they were mustered out.

W. D. VINCENT.

Congressman McCormick.

In reply to your inquiry, I will say, it will be difficult to adopt and carry out any policy this Congress owing to the great Republican majority in the house. I am opposed to the retirement of the greenbacks and I am opposed to the Sherman-Cullom anti-scalping bill. I am in favor of financial legislation such as free coinage of silver at the ratio of sixteen to one, legal tender for any sum. I favor the government issue of full legal tender paper money. I am in favor of a just and equitable bankruptcy bill. I am in favor of postal savings banks.

N. B. MCCORMICK.

Anthony Makes War on Leland.

Leavenworth, December 13.—Col. D. R. Anthony, of the Times, has gone to Washington, and it is understood that he is going to make war on Leland. He is loaded with proof of his constant adherence to Republican candidates and principles and of Leland's treachery to the party and to every body and everything that did not carry with it personal value of honor for Leland. Anthony is a terrific fighter and his influence will doubtless be felt at Washington and will materially aid Baker in his contest for supremacy.

O. K. Swayne on Bossism.

In a recent issue of the Mail and Breeze, O. K. Swayne, a leading spirit in Shawnee county Republican politics, says:

"The rank and file of the party is certainly entitled to some consideration when it comes to matters interesting the party as a whole, but precious little representation do they get with Leland-Bristow-Simpson at the helm. Only a few days ago a meeting of the executive committee of the State committee was called to decide as to whether headquarters would be opened up here this winter. Why was not the thirty-five members of that committee called who were elected by the Republicans in the State Republican convention? Why were only such members as were appointed by Cy Leland called to represent that convention and the Republicans of the State? The sooner this close corporation, this star chamber clique, this Blossom House coterie, is turned down, the sooner will Kansas resume her old place among the Republican States. It is this outfit and nothing else that is losing for our party votes that should never have been given cause to desert us."

Uniformity in High School Work.

Superintendent Stryker has called a meeting of high school principals to be held at Topeka during the State Teachers' Association. In his circular relative to the matter he asserts that the attendance at high schools should and could be greatly increased. He makes the point that but a small per cent. of young people will ever get anything better than a high school education and that the importance of gathering them in cannot be overestimated. In urging uniformity in high school work he says:

"Every school has its own course of study, and a pupil going from Paola to Abilene, after having finished the first two years in the Paola schools, might find that some of the work he had completed the year before to be in the course for his next year of school, or other work that he had never heard of to have been completed by his new classmates in their first year in the high school. These towns are named only to present what might happen from any other town. What I shall urge them to do is to select the best course and to have all conform to it."